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Constable..... E. G. Carr

GENOA TOWNSHIP.

Justice of the Peace..... H. P. Burnham
Constable..... W. F. Williams

A FEMALE HUSBAND.

A Nevada Sensation of a Quarter of a Century Ago.

[From the Reno Journal.]

The following incident, or series of incidents occurred in this State about twenty-five years ago and created a sensation which extended from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast:

Some time in 1879 there appeared in Tuscarora a rather good looking young fellow, apparently about 26 years of age who gave his name as Samuel M. Pollard. He was accompanied by a rather coarse looking man named Gallagher both representing themselves as coming from Colorado, which subsequent developments proved to be the truth. Pollard was a lively young chap, rather dressy, and with the exception of his beardless face presented no appearance of femininity, and there was not the slightest suspicion aroused in regard to his sex. He went to work first driving a water cart, then hauling wood and sagebrush and other masculine occupations which

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came to his hands. He boarded at a restaurant kept by a man named Hoverton whose spinster sister was connected with him in the business, and whose niece, Miranda Huse, a rather comely young girl of about eighteen years, acted as attendant in the dining room. It was not long before the boarders noticed that "Sam" and Miranda manifested a most decided preference for each other, which the frowns of the uncle and aunt and their verbal protests failed most signally to suppress. Matters went on in this way for a few months when one evening the young couple quietly slipped out of the house, hastened to the office of the justice of the peace, and a license having been previously procured, were married in accordance with statutory provisions of the State. Shortly afterwards, the couple, accompanied by the man Gallagher removed to Richmond mining district, about ten miles from Tuscarora where Sam and Gallagher worked prospecting a mine which they had located. After about a month or so sojourn at Richmond Sam and Miranda had a quarrel, of which it was said Gallagher was the cause. Miranda returned afoot to Tuscarora, where she made the startling announcement that her husband, Pollard, was the same sex as herself. The report spread like wildfire although many questioned the truthfulness of Miranda's statement. A reporter of the Times-Review, a local paper at Tuscarora, interviewed the alleged husbandless wife who declared to him in the most positive terms that her story was true which declaration she verified by a sworn statement as to the fact. The publication of the report of the interview in the next morning's paper, with the affidavit, increased a hundred fold the excitement which the first report had aroused and there was loud clamoring for justice to be meted out to the female "Lothario" and imposter. The District Attorney of Elko Co. was importuned to take the matter in hand, and a complaint was filed with the Tuscarora Justice, charging Pollard with perjury in getting the marriage license. The warrant was placed in the hands of Deputy Sheriff Weaver, who proceeded to Richmond to arrest the defendant, but the latter had got wind of the proceedings and had "lit out" on horseback in company with Gallagher. The officer, however, got on their trail and overhauled them near Paradise Valley, making the arrest and returning with the fugitives to Tuscarora, where they were received by a reception committee composed of nearly the entire population of that then booming and red hot mining camp. In an interview with the Times-Review reporter Pollard refused to answer any questions in regard to the matter of his or her sex, stating that such was the advice of the attorney for the defense. The reporter noticed, however, that Pollard's auricular organs had been pierced for earrings, which was in his opinion, strong, if not conclusive evidence of femininity, but when the prisoner voiced the sentence, "whether it is proven that I am a man or a woman, I will assure you that I have always lived a strictly virtuous life," the pencil pusher would have wagered his entire bundle of wildcat mining stock, representing millions, against a Waterbury watch case that it was not the utterance of a person entitled by law and custom to appear in public in bifistulous garments. In this his conviction was afterwards most completely verified.

The trial or examination was commenced and lasted for several days. The court room was packed to its utmost capacity and hundreds were unable to obtain admission. The legal proceedings were farcical in the extreme, but the

manner of their termination capped the climax and placed the crowning sheaf upon the greatest farce-comedy that was ever enacted, at least within the walls of a Nevada temple of justice. On the third or fourth day when the court adjourned for luncheon recess, Miranda, who was seated near the District Attorney, while "Sam" was standing a few feet distant, suddenly arose, exclaiming, "Oh, my dear Sam" and darting toward "him," they were instantly folded in each others arms. The crowd cheered vociferously, "Sam" and Miranda walked away arm in arm and that was the last of the legal proceedings in the celebrated "Female Husband" case at Tuscarora.

Perhaps not the least remarkable phase of this most remarkable affair, was the fact that Miranda admitted to the Times-Review reporter and others, that "Sam" had not deceived her in regard to her sex, which had been confessed to her before the marriage. Her reason for consenting to the ceremony was that she was badly treated by her uncle, aunt and grandmother, and that Pollard had promised to take her back to her people in the States as soon as the means could be raised for that purpose. After the trial the couple lived together for a short time and then separated although Pollard remained in Tuscarora for some time afterwards, always habited in male attire. During the height of the sensation a lecture was written for Pollard by a literary gentleman of Elko county, but as a lecturer Samuel M. or Sarah Maud, which was her true name was not a howling success. She made her first appearance in the lecture field in Tuscarora delivering the first section in male and the second in female attire. It was mainly a history of her reasons for masquerading as a man. She was born and raised in an interior town in New York State where for a number of years she was engaged in the shirt manufacturing business. Not being successful in that line she immigrated to the then territory of Colorado where she run for a while a boarding house in a small mining camp. Being again unsuccessful, she left for Nevada bringing up in Tuscarora. She had never assumed male apparel until she left for Nevada. For this she gave as her reason that she could earn a better living as a man than as a woman. She returned to her native town, where when last heard of was married and was the mother of a number of children.

There are many persons in the State who remember the sensation caused by the publication of the details of the affair of which this is a brief and incomplete condensation. The newspapers of the country east and west teemed with the sensation, especially the illustrated sheets of the Police Gazette class which published numerous cuts, illustrative (or alleged to be) of scenes enacted during the progress of the affair. Many people regarded the entire story as a hoax gotten up by the Tuscarora newspaper solely for sensational purposes. But such was not the case. What was published in the Times-Review was plain unvarnished truth, without the slightest exaggeration or attempt at embellishment. That truth is sometimes stranger than fiction is verified in the story, badly told as it was and is, of the "Female Husband," of Tuscarora.

Miranda married a respectable workman, and like the heroes and heroines in all good story books "lived happily ever afterward."

Belong to the crowd that goes ahead—to the throng in front where duty and work are done.

A bus line making two trips daily has been put on between Reno and Harriman.

FEMALE WEAKNESS

642 1-2 Congress St.
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I consider Wine of Cardui superior to any doctor's medicine I ever used and I know whereof I speak. I suffered for nine months with suppressed menstruation which completely prostrated me. Pains would shoot through my back and sides and I would have blinding headaches. My limbs would swell up and I would feel so weak I could not stand up. I naturally felt discouraged for I seemed to be beyond the help of physicians, but Wine of Cardui came as a God-send to me. I felt a change for the better within a week. After nineteen days treatment I menstruated without suffering the agonies I usually did and soon became regular and without pain. Wine of Cardui is simply wonderful and I wish that all suffering women knew of its good qualities.

Wilhelmina S. S. S.
Treasurer, Portland Economic League

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